our fourfooted friends

Animal Rescue League of Boston • Fall 1988

Animal Rescue League of Boston

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Our Fourfooted Friends

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Our Fourfooted Friends
(US ISSN 0030 6851) *Published quarterly by the Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116-5221.* Price $4.00 a year. Office of Publication, Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116-5221. Address all correspondence, editorial, subscriptions to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265. Post Master: Send address changes to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265. Second Class Postage has been paid at Boston, Massachusetts.

Fall 1988
Volume 85, No. 3

COVER:

"Becky" the camel enjoys a new lease on life at Franklin Park Zoo (see story on page 6).

Photo by Bob Howard

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Arthur G. Slade *President*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Farm Animal Petition

Voters will be considering many critical issues and candidates on the ballot once election day comes around this November. One question on the Massachusetts ballot relates to the humane care and treatment of farm animals. There can be little question that we are in favor of humane treatment for farm animals. Obviously this is true and no humane person can find fault with this premise. On the surface, ballot question number 3 would seem a fairly simple issue, but on closer inspection it quickly becomes anything but a simple matter.

I have reference to an Initiative Petition filed by CEASE (Coalition to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation) which will appear on the election ballot next November on a Yes or No basis. There will be no other choice. CEASE is to be commended for following through on an issue about which they feel strongly. Collecting the thousands of necessary signatures and seeing the question through the legislative process is difficult, demanding, and expensive. Unfortunately, CEASE went forward with this petition and bill without consulting with professional humane groups such as the League, and we are now faced with legislation for an area where improvements and reforms need to take place, but CEASE's proposal presents serious flaws in its current form.

Before such a matter can appear on the ballot as a question to be voted on by the voting public, it must first be considered in the form of a bill before the Massachusetts Legislature. This all was done last Spring. The Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture unanimously rejected the proposal as House Bill 4002 and on May 2, 1988, the House of Representatives followed suit with a vote of 147-2 against it. Clearly, feelings and perhaps emotions are running high on both sides of the issue.

The authors of the Humane Farming Initiative state that they used the Petition process to demonstrate broad public support for the establishment of humane minimum standards of animal husbandry. They obtained 72,580 signatures of certified voters in just ten weeks. This represents a major undertaking that cannot be dismissed lightly. The opponents, on the other hand, express strong objections to such a law as they contend it will cost Massachusetts farmers 90 million dollars to comply with the regulations proposed by the petition, and that this would lead to the sale of many smaller farms to developers with the concurrent loss of 600,000 acres of open lands and natural habitats. They point out that small farms make up the current animal agriculture scene in Massachusetts. They claim that they are already highly regulated and further efforts are unnecessary. The Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture reports that they have not had a written complaint about the abuse of farm animals for four years. This is no doubt true because these complaints come to agencies such as the League, and not the Department of Food and Agriculture.

Last Spring, while this issue was before the Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture as House Bill 4002, we and many others worked with people on both sides of the question in a genuine hope of coming up with a new, reasonable bill that would adequately and properly address all the concerns. This effort failed in spite of close agreement on many, if not most, of the points.

There are lots of issues and concerns in this matter, but a few have had special attention and have been spotlighted in the press. One is the question of how baby chicks (male chicks) are destroyed by breeders; one is the care, housing and feeding of veal calves; and still another is the way livestock are neutered or otherwise surgically treated on Massachusetts farms. These are all matters of serious concern when they present current day problems. The Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture said one of their objections to the House Bill was that it "mandated regulations before a need was demonstrated." Others saw it as "a solution looking for a problem."

I do support what I believe to be the honest intent of the bill, "Humane treatment of farm animals," but serious flaws and defects make it unworkable in the form in which it was presented to the Legislature. Unworkable legislation is not in anyone's interest as it will never accomplish its goals.

Thus, upon passage of the referendum, a prompt amendment is essential to correct these flaws. An amended version is no doubt the only likely hope if one wishes to see such a law have meaningful applications. I say this because I see the need for additions or repairs to the petition.

The proposed Advisory Board needs to have fair and equitable representation of all interests. Farming interests are not adequately represented. In its present form, it would not likely stand the test of fairness in court. There is language that needs correcting and there is likely other language that needs clarification.

It would seem, as with other successful legislation, that a law that provided for proper and legal rules and regulations to deal with the actual and present day problems would be most effective. This approach has worked well with other laws we enforce such as the pet shop and riding stable rules and regulations. It would seem the first step would be for a properly constituted Board or Committee to explore, examine and hear valid testimony on all aspects of the farm animal issues as they exist today in Massachusetts, and then make sound and workable rules and regulations where the need requires.

A Day In The Life Of A Camper

at the Animal Friends Summer School

By Mary Jane Traggis

At 8:50 a.m. on a Thursday in July, Tom and Hannah (6 and 8 years old respectively) arrive at the Animal Friends Summer School and are helped out of their car by a smiling junior counselor. "Hi, good to see you this morning," says the junior counselor. Hannah and Tom wave goodbye to their father and run over to the "meeting hutch" where their friends group together in the mornings. This is no ordinary meeting hutch; it is special because "Kodi" the rabbit lives there. The children love to watch him hop around inside and eat his carrots and lettuce while they wait for the camp day to begin.

"Ding, Ding, Ding!" clangs the camp bell. "Oops, it is flag raising time!" exclaims Jimmy as he grabs Corey's hand and runs to join the rest of the campers around the flag pole. The children stand quietly with their hands raised high hoping Larry, the senior counselor running the flag-raising ceremony, will choose him/her as one of the two who will help out today. Larry chooses Erin and Ben who proudly lead the camp in reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance" and singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Larry compliments them on a job well done.

After flag-raising the campers form a human "choo-choo" as they make their way into Baxendale Hall for "song time." Kelly is all smiles when Mike, a counselor, asks her for a song request. "The Crocodile Song?" she offers a bit hesitantly. The campers cheer for the request of a favorite song and Mike compliments Kelly on an excellent choice. Kelly sits up nice and straight and sings along loudly.

When several songs are sung, Valerie announces to the campers that, if everyone is quiet, she will tell them what the morning "activity" will be. In a moment it is quiet enough for Valerie to explain that "Sharks and Seaweed" is the game to be played during activity period. The campers file over to the whiffleball field and Becca is chosen to be the shark. Children on either side of her shout, "Mr. Shark, Mr. Shark, may we cross your ocean?" Becca-the-shark answers, "Only if you are wearing . . . um . . . blue!" All the children wearing blue try to run to the opposite line of campers without being tagged by Becca-the-shark but the shark always manages to get a few. All the children who were tagged become sharks and help Becca tag the remaining seaweed players.

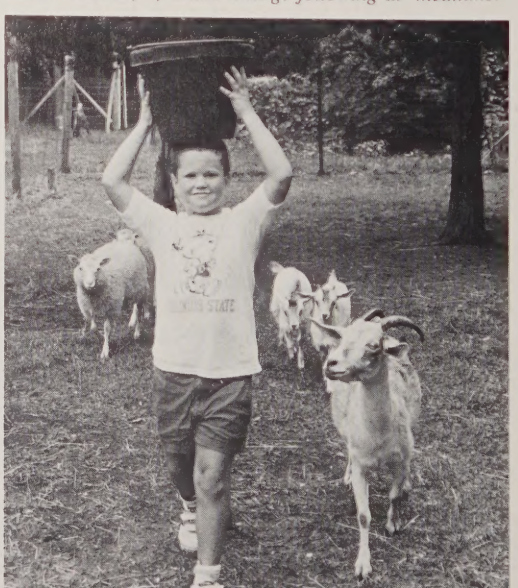
When thirty minutes of Activity Period have passed, Terrie rings the camp bell to signal the time for classes to begin. The campers scatter to find their senior and junior counselors. Tom and Jimmy get in a line behind Cindy, the Nature Photography teacher. Hannah and Becca go to find Anne, the counselor in charge of Horse Class. Their other friends are in classes such as Ocean Ecology, Farm Animals, Computers, and Drama. Anne, as well as the whole staff, teaches the children the proper care and treatment of animals. "Taking care of Yogi, Pippin, Irma, and Sonny is a whole lot of work but, if you really love your horse friends, it is well worth the effort," explains Anne. "You have to be quiet up here at the paddocks because Anne is teaching her class," warns Cindy as she leads her class through the farm area, "but I know she will not mind if you take some pictures for your photography folders." Danny holds the camera firmly, aims, and "click" goes the shutter. He feels proud of his newly learned skill.

At 10:55 a.m. the bell chimes its five-minute warning to remind the counselors to pick up their areas and usher their class to Baxendale Hall. "Since Drama Class worked so hard today, I will let you all go to Milk and Sports Break a little early," says Liam. "Hooray!" shouts his class as they file out for white or chocolate milk and then decide on a sport to play. Hannah loves to read books about animals during sports and milk break so she visits the Buttercup Memorial Library in the Arts and Crafts building. Tom likes frisbee and Jimmy runs to play whiffleball or basketball. Becca likes to practice hitting the volleyball over the net and Peter works on improving his badminton skills so he can challenge his mother at home later. Anna likes all of the sports offered, but horseshoes really keeps her on her feet.

The finale of each day for the morning session is a visiting guest speaker, and today it is a representative of the Northeast Marine Fisheries Institute. The visitor passes

Campers take to the sea to study marine ecology.

Andrew Bonica, 7, draws a large following at mealtime.



Eric Nathanson and Lexi Shields, both 7, deliver rations to the camp cow.

"Irma" the burro and "Pippin" the pony share a snack provided by Lisa Filbin, 6.

Lisa, and her sister Laurie Filbin, 8, ham it up with two pig-tailed pals.

around all sorts of marine life. Some of the creatures are familiar and some are completely new to the children. The hands-on learning makes the time seem to rush by and soon the campers are preparing to go home. While standing in line waiting for his ride home, Christopher explains, "I thought that 'special' was good but my favorite was the Animal Rescue League of Boston ambulance that visited. It had flashing lights and even a siren to clear the way when they are rushing a hurt animal to the hospital."

During the car ride home, Tom, Hannah, and the other campers in their carpool discuss which classes they hope to take next week. Tom cannot decide between Computers and Wildlife. Since Hannah already had Pottery, her first choice is Woodworking. Becca wants to be in Pet Care and keeps reminding herself to ask her parents if it might be possible to adopt the guinea pig used in class. Christopher and Mark really want to be in Group Adventures together.

In the meantime, back at camp, the counselors are preparing their classrooms for the older group of children who attend the afternoon session.

★ ★ ★

The above story is my depiction of a "typical" day at the Animal Friends Summer School; however, the experience of working at the camp is anything but typical. I have been involved with the camp for twelve years, six as a camper and six as a counselor. I am obviously very attached to the people and ideals that make this camp work. This year I had the wonderful experience of teaching a new class, the Pet Therapy class. The campers, the nursing home residents we visited, and I emerged from this experience with a bit more character than we started the summer with. In Pet Therapy class we would pack up our little van with campers, a dog, a kitten, a guinea pig, and even two kid goats on occasion and travel around visiting and delivering joy to local nursing home residents. I loved to watch the combination of child and animal work its magic on even the most introverted resident.

If I could pluck my most poignant memory from the summer, it would be the memory of patients in an Alzheimer's ward in a nursing home we visited. These patients, many of whom no longer recognize members of their own family, would be lucid for precious moments at a time in response to the touch of a dog's paw on their lap or the sound of a purring kitten near their face. In these patients, especially, I saw the utter joy that contact with a pet can give and how strong the memories of previously owned pets must be to elicit such recognition in one so ill.

I feel that children are born with a natural love of animals and our job at the Animal Friends Summer School is to encourage the concern they already possess and teach them the proper care and treatment of animals. I have seen these lessons taught and learned over and over for the past twelve years and I never get tired of seeing the children using their new "humane" knowledge with the animals at camp. When I see a camper who has learned to hold a rabbit without scaring it or causing it discomfort, or correctly leading a horse around the paddock, or carefully combing a dog before it goes on a Pet Therapy visit, I feel proud for my contribution to a job well done.

Mary Jane Traggis, the author, was this year's recipient of the Florence E. Buttrick Award for the outstanding counselor of the season.

Recipients of the Walter Dethloff Awards for outstanding campers were: Session I—Seth Ament and Whitney Bailey; Session II—Adam Landry and Stephen Kirk.

◄ *Courtney Davock, 12, introduces a puppy to a resident at the Megansett Nursing Home as part of the new pet therapy program.*

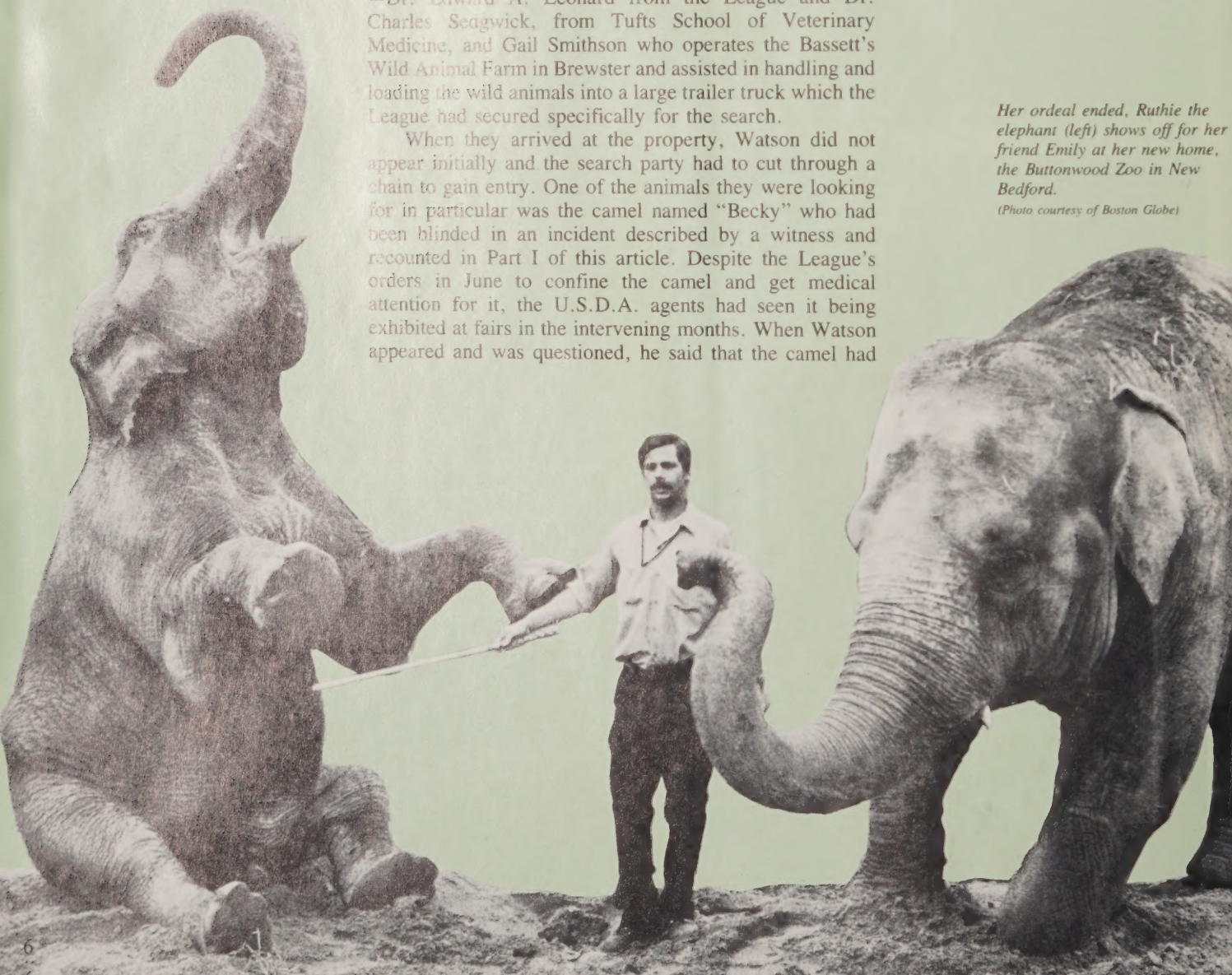
The Case of the Mistreated Menagerie

Part II: The Prosecution of Brian Watson for Animal Abuse

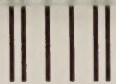
The summer, 1988 issue of *Our Fourfooted Friends* recounted how in June, 1986 the League learned of substandard conditions in which one Brian Watson was keeping a large number of animals on a remote, secluded farm in Essex, Massachusetts; how on June 25 the League obtained and executed a court-issued search warrant for this farm, seizing four sick animals; how, as a result of publicity attendant upon this search, six unrelated witnesses stepped forward and contacted the League to tell of various instances of animal abuse on Brian Watson's part which they had each independently observed; and finally, how on August 5, 1986 the League returned to Watson's farm, armed with a second search warrant, and seized a total of 32 additional animals.

League officials were accompanied on the all-day search by two state police officers, officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (U.S.D.A.), two veterinarians – Dr. Edward A. Leonard from the League and Dr. Charles Sedgwick, from Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine, and Gail Smithson who operates the Bassett's Wild Animal Farm in Brewster and assisted in handling and loading the wild animals into a large trailer truck which the League had secured specifically for the search.

When they arrived at the property, Watson did not appear initially and the search party had to cut through a chain to gain entry. One of the animals they were looking for in particular was the camel named "Becky" who had been blinded in an incident described by a witness and recounted in Part I of this article. Despite the League's orders in June to confine the camel and get medical attention for it, the U.S.D.A. agents had seen it being exhibited at fairs in the intervening months. When Watson appeared and was questioned, he said that the camel had



Her ordeal ended, Ruthie the elephant (left) shows off for her friend Emily at her new home, the Buttonwood Zoo in New Bedford.
(Photo courtesy of Boston Globe)



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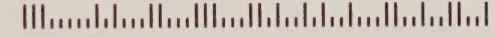

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been sent to New Hampshire, but Ms. Smithson spotted fresh camel droppings leading to nearby woods. Following her lead, the two U.S.D.A. agents found Becky chained to a tree 200 yards into the woods.

The camel was taken to Tufts Veterinary School for medical care, and later brought, along with six of the monkeys, to Southwick's Wild Animal Farm in Mendon, one of several animal facilities around the state which the League determined had the expertise and equipment to provide adequate temporary care for the variety of animals seized in the search. In addition to the camel, the animals taken into custody that day included eight primates, two mountain lions, two ponies, several pigs and a variety of exotic birds.

The August 5th search marked not the conclusion of this case, but rather the beginning of a bizarre and complicated series of events which this article will attempt to summarize.

For several nights following the August 5th search, Mr. Watson's neighbors heard the grinding of truck gears in the middle of the night. When the sounds finally ended, it became apparent that Mr. Watson had transported his entire remaining menagerie, lock, stock, and barrel, to a new and secret location. Despite its best efforts, the League was unable to discover the location of the missing animals for a period of several months. Meanwhile, the League compiled the results of its two searches plus the information volunteered by the six independent witnesses into a comprehensive report which it submitted to the Essex County District Attorney Kevin M. Burke on August 28.

A Thief in the Night

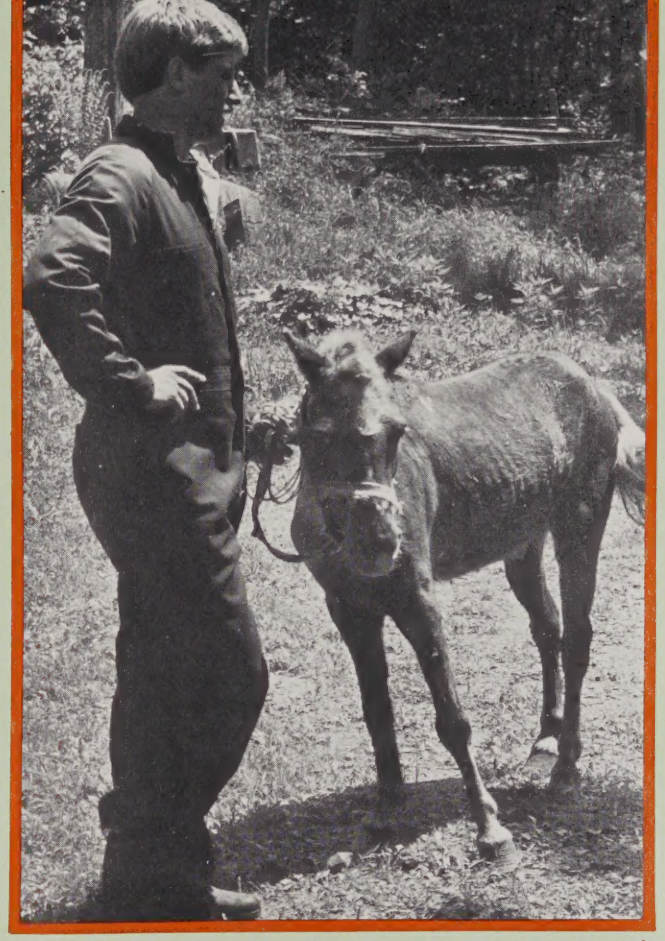
The next major development in this case occurred on the night of October 7-8, 1986:

At some time between the hours of 2 a.m. and 7 a.m. on October 8 several people broke into the Southwick Farm and, while the guard and his family slept in a trailer near the park entrance, quietly tranquilized and removed the camel and six primates.

Since the only animals removed from Southwick's were those formerly belonging to Watson, it was strongly suspected that he had engineered the break-in. Meanwhile, a man posing as a Southwick employee had appeared at Franklin Park Zoo, where the two mountain lions were being cared for, and picked up the circus cage used to transport the cats to the zoo. A zoo employee identified the man as Watson from a photo provided by the League to the Metropolitan District Police, and security was tightened at the zoo, as well as at other facilities housing the animals taken into custody.

After two weeks of tracking down all leads but discovering no trace of the missing animals, the League decided to offer a $1,000 reward for the missing camel, Becky. Posters with her photo were circulated to state and local law enforcement agencies and to media throughout New England.

As a result of this appeal, the New Hampshire State Police received a phone call from a truck driver who, returning home from work in the early morning hours, had picked up a copy of the *Manchester Union Leader* at a truck stop and read of the search for the missing camel. He told police that he had rented land on a dairy farm he owned in Epping, N.H. to a man who was keeping several animals there, one of which was a camel.



Stevie, a blind pony, is led from Watson's property by League agent Alan Cunningham during the August 5th search.

The Missing Menagerie

On Friday, October 24, 1986, the League finally located Watson's missing menagerie: the 100-plus animals were concealed in a remote field surrounded by woods, on the rear section of the Epping dairy farm. Some of the animals were housed under a large red and white circus-type tent; others were left completely outdoors. No human caretakers were on hand. In addition to the camel and six primates stolen from Southwick's Animal Farm, there were: an elephant housed in a dilapidated truck-trailer; two tigers housed in a circus-type transport cage; a jaguar and a lion; about a dozen exotic birds, including macaws and parrots, housed in three filthy cages; as well as miscellaneous rabbits, ponies, goats, sheep, ducks and geese.

When the New Hampshire State Police entered the field where this menagerie was concealed, they found no one in the area taking care of the animals; nor did anyone show up during the next 40 hours to claim the animals or assume responsibility for their care.

The authorities removed some of the animals and posted a guard over the rest. The League took the primates and arranged for the camel to be taken to Franklin Park Zoo. The New Hampshire authorities also asked the Animal Rescue League to assist them in finding proper housing for some of the large cats and exotic birds which they had seized at Epping, and the League again responded, at considerable cost, by arranging to have these animals boarded at Bassett's Wild Animal Farm in Brewster. Special equipment was needed to move the remaining animals, especially the elephant which required a special truck that was not available that day.

(Continued)

On the second night (October 25-26), the N.H. authorities left the remaining animals unattended for a few hours. During this interval, Mr. Watson returned to the property and quietly removed the elephant, 14 goats, and two ponies in the run-down truck-trailer. Watson drove this trailer to Danvers, Mass. where, heading south on Route 1, he apparently had brake problems, and left the trailer (and its occupants) in the yard of a local dry-goods company.

The following night (October 26-27), Mr. Watson again returned to the Epping farm and loaded up some of his remaining belongings. When he started to drive off, however, the owner of the farm blocked his exit by parking a vehicle across the road, and the New Hampshire authorities came to the scene and arrested Watson for several violations of their laws.

Abandonment on Route 1

Meanwhile, back in Danvers, on Monday morning, October 27, when the company employees arrived for work they were astonished to find sitting in their yard a dilapidated truck-trailer with the head of a live, active elephant protruding through a hole in the roof in the trailer's front. Inside were an angry, thirsty, hungry and anxious 8,000-lb. elephant, 14 terrified goats, a horse, two ponies and several donkeys, all huddled at one end trying to stay out of the elephant's way.

The dumpster people summoned the Danvers Police, who in turn brought in the Animal Rescue League to deal with the situation and obtain legal custody. Despite a prolonged driving rain and thick mud underfoot, the League agents got the situation under control, working from early morning until late at night. The Danvers Police asked the League to take care of the animals, so the League arranged for Southwick's Wild Animal Farm officials to come down from Vermont with a large modern trailer-truck to transport the elephant, goats, sheep, ponies and donkey.

Ruthie in a compound, unattended.

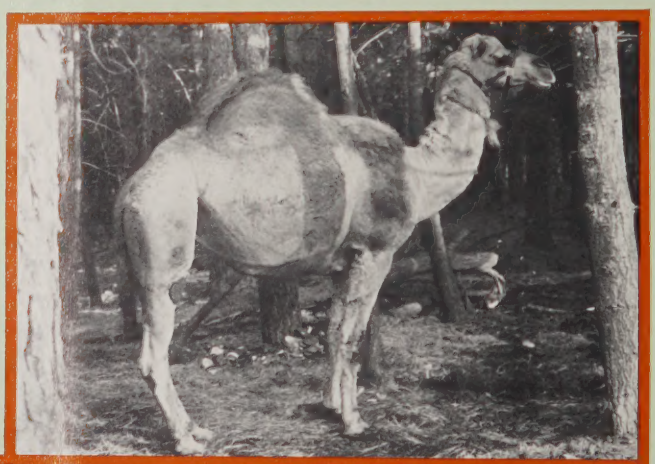
The League had found a temporary home for the Asian elephant, named "Ruthie," at the Buttonwood Zoo in New Bedford when, on Friday, October 31, 1986, the U.S. Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service legally confiscated Ruthie, an endangered species, under the authority of the Lacey Act, on the grounds that Watson had transported the exotic animal across state lines without complying with the federal law.

Meanwhile, earlier in the week, an Essex County grand jury had returned a total of seven criminal indictments against Brian Watson for cruelty to animals. The Mendon Police Department had also obtained a warrant for his arrest for the night break-in and theft of the animals from the Southwick Farm and, on Monday, October 27, Mendon Police transported Watson from Epping, N.H., where he had waived an extradition hearing, to Milford District Court, where he was arraigned and then released on $1,000 bail.

A Year in Court

Three months later, on January 30, 1987, Mr. Watson was prosecuted in the Milford (Mass.) District Court for

Becky's photo was circulated to media in an interstate search.



Two tigers shared close quarters in a circus-type transport cage.

breaking and entering the Southwick Farm in the night on the previous October 8. Watson took the stand in his own defense, claiming that he had nothing to do with the burglary. The court, however, found Watson guilty. He appealed this conviction to Worcester District Court. On February 26, 1987, however, Watson pleaded guilty to the burglary charges, and the court thereupon continued the case "without a finding" for approximately one year.

On March 13, 1987, Watson went to trial in the Exeter (N.H.) District Court. After about four hours' testimony, the state and the defendent entered into a plea agreement whereby Watson pleaded guilty to one charge, namely bringing wild animals into New Hampshire without a license, and the other charge was dropped.

Finally, in December, 1987 Watson went to trial on three of the indictments brought against him by the Essex County grand jury back in October, 1986. The trial took place in Newburyport, Mass. with Judge Cortland Mathers presiding. The presentation of evidence and legal arguments to a full twelve-person jury took approximately 2½ days, throughout which the jurors displayed attentive and strong interest in the case. At the conclusion of the trial, the jury found Watson guilty of having abused the camel by beating it and blinding it in one eye; not guilty of having abused some bears by keeping them in inhumane conditions; and the jury was unable to agree upon a verdict as to a charge that he had abused his horses by failing to provide them with proper shelter during a particularly vicious cold snap, on Christmas day of 1980. In view of the jury's inability to agree upon a verdict after ten hours of vigorous deliberation, Judge Mathers dismissed this indictment and set the case down for sentencing on Wednesday, December 30, 1987.

The Fugitive Flees

On December 30, Mr. Watson failed to appear, whereupon the Court revoked his bail and issued a warrant for his arrest. The four remaining Essex County indictments are being held in abeyance pending Mr. Watson's arrest. To date, Watson has not been located, and thus he remains a fugitive.

Throughout this period, the costs which the League assumed in caring for these animals continued to mount, as

(Continued)

Horses and ponies mill about in corral on Epping dairy farm.

Authorities found the missing animals under a circus tent in Epping, N.H.

the case diminand a variety of appearance, the League of providing care for animals, for an indefinite period

alone ran $60 a day, and by , the total costs of food, veterinary care, and cage construction had reached the $100,000 mark. Moreover, the animals were having offspring. While in the League's custody, the male and female tigers kept at Bassett's Wild Animal Farm had three healthy cubs, and the League, without permanent custody, had no legal right to neuter them.

During the summer of 1987, there were a couple of attempted break-ins at Bassett's and Gail Smithson spotted some former employees of Watson among the visiting public. After the League hired a round-the-clock security guard and enlisted the cooperation of the Brewster Police, no further problems occurred, but the resources of all of the facilities caring for the animals were under increasing strain throughout this period. Dr. John Curtin of the Metropolitan Boston Zoos extended himself providing care not only for the mountain lions and camel housed at the Franklin Park Zoo, but also journeying to Cape Cod to give medical care to the large cats.

Happy Endings

The League, meanwhile, had petitioned for custody of the animals so that they could proceed to find good, permanent homes for them. On January 27, 1988 Judge Ronan of Essex County Superior Court issued an order awarding ownership of the animals seized from Watson in Essex, Massachusetts to the Animal Rescue League of Boston for appropriate distribution. Shortly thereafter, New Hampshire authorities awarded the League custody of the remaining animals seized in New Hampshire, including the wild cats and birds.

In the months since, the League has devoted much of its resources to the time-consuming project of finding suitable homes for an unprecedented variety of animals, ranging from pigs and goats to a jaguar and tigers. Today the League is happy to be able to report that almost all of the animals have been placed in permanent homes.

Some of the dedicated people who cared for the animals grew attached to them and wanted to keep them. Thus, the lioness, two tigers, the oldest cub, named "Shaka," and another cub, have been adopted by Gail Smithson at Bassett's Wild Animal Farm. The other cub went to Aqua Circus in Yarmouth, which had also been caring for the exotic birds.

One of the mountain lions and the jaguar have been sent to the San Antonio Wild Animal Park, and the other

Becky the camel shows her appreciation to League president Arthur Slade as Dr. John Curtin looks on. The occasion was the camel's adoption ceremony at Franklin Park Zoo.

Ruthie the elephant, together with twenty or so terrified companions, was discovered in an abandoned trailer on Route 1 in Danvers.

Adam Kalil, 5, and state troopers take "Pita" for a stroll when the pony was kept as a mascot by the Massachusetts State Police.

mountain lion is due to be flown shortly to the Malaysia National Park through the efforts of the Society for Endangered Cats which helped arrange the placement.

The Massachusetts State Police cared for one of the ponies, named "Pita," as their mascot, until the pony was placed in a permanent home with a family on Cape Cod.

Federal officials elected to leave "Ruthie" the elephant at the Buttonwood Zoo in New Bedford, where she is happily showing off her old tricks to new friends (see photo).

A farmer in Sandwich adopted the pigs, and the goats are currently delighting children at Southwick's petting zoo.

The long-suffering "Becky," the camel blinded in one eye in a beating, kidnapped, and the object of an interstate search, was officially adopted by the Franklin Park Zoo in a well-publicized ceremony April 26, 1988, attended by representatives of the League and the Metropolitan District Commission which operates the Metropolitan Boston Zoos.

The League invites all of its members to share pride in the fact that, thanks to their support, the ARL has been able to bring to a happy conclusion one of the most heinous cases in its history, and probably the largest such case, in terms of number and variety of animals helped, hours worked, and dollars spent. Interested members who live in the Boston area are also invited to visit Becky at Franklin Park Zoo, where she can be found on the camel range enjoying a renewed lease on life.

★ ★ ★

Dear Members and Friends,

As you can understand from the account of this case, it has broken records for us in many directions. It is the largest single case we have handled, it has the greatest variety of domestic and exotic animals ever involved in one cruelty case, and the duration of the case (over 18 months) is longer than any other in our history.

However, the expense of this case has set the biggest record. The cost, excluding legal and administrative fees, is well over $150,000. There is no question that it was absolutely necessary for us to undertake such an effort, but few, if any, humane societies are ever called upon to deal with cruelty cases of this magnitude and completely without assistance or support from governmental agencies.

When we first ventured into the case it rapidly became apparent that this situation had been neglected by other agencies for an extended period of time and our task was of giant proportions.

Thus it is not surprising that the costs have also been gigantic—gigantic to the point that it has been a very substantial drain on our animal care budget. In light of such a tremendous expense, I would like to ask our many friends and members if they would consider an additional special gift to help offset the cost of such an unusual event. I know how kind and responsive you have been in the past and I am grateful for your continued support. We have enclosed a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope in the center of this issue for you to use in sending your special gift. We all thank you so much!!

Arthur G. Slade
President

PETSHOW '88

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The League's 36th annual Pet Show, held July 23 at Nye Field in North Falmouth, drew 94 contestants who competed for awards in ten categories. The event is designed to encourage young pet owners to appreciate and properly care for their pets, and prizes are awarded based on condition and care of pet, as well as "pet appeal." Here are the first prize, blue ribbon winners:

1. *Best of Show award went to "Sparky," who also won first prize in the boy dog category. Here the prize pomeranian poses with owner Meghan O'Connor, 9, and pet show judges (l to r): Edward Powers, Dr. Carlton E. Buttrick, Arthur G. Slade and Thomas H. White.*
2. *"Ben" relaxes with Jared, 5, and Michael O'Brien, 8, after capturing the blue ribbon as Best Tailwagger.*
3. *Whitney Bailey, 9, cuddles "Jasmine" who won first prize in the kitten class.*
4. *"Woody" the parakeet, owned by ten-year-old Kyle Maikath, was tops among miscellaneous pets with two feet or less.*
5. *Patchen Mortimer, 10, proudly displays "Frisky," the hamster who placed first in the miscellaneous pets with four feet category.*
6. *Jean Connolly, 9, hugs "Zoe" who tied for first place in the girl dog group.*
7. *Sharing top honors in the girl dog category was "Sandy," a golden retriever owned by Scott Carpenter, 13.*
8. *Top cat "Frisky" basks in her glory with young owner Jessica Ryan, 11.*
9. *Rebecca Stover, 12, pins the blue ribbon on prize puppy "Abracadabra."*
10. *"Minnie" was on best behavior for owner John Shade, 12, taking top honors in Dog Obedience.*
11. *Meghan O'Connor pins the blue ribbon in the boy dog category on "Sparky," who went on to take Best of Show.*

NEWSFRONT

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE

LEAGUE ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENTS

Thomas H. White, manager of the League's Cape Cod Branch in Brewster since 1983, has been appointed director of operations for the League, it was announced by Arthur G. Slade, League president. White, who formerly served with the M.S.P.C.A. as manager of their Boston shelter, and as a constituent in Nassau and the Bahamas, received his M.A. degree in criminal justice in 1986 from Anna Maria College.

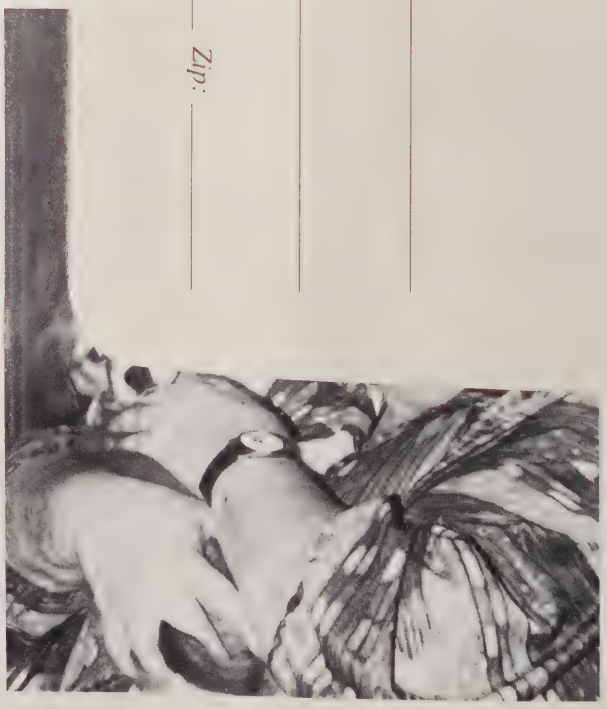
Other recently announced appointments include: Robert Walsh, former manager of the Boston shelter, is now manager of the Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham, which includes the Safford Memorial Shelter; Patricia Kelly, former assistant manager at the Sheldon Branch, is now manager of the Boston shelter; Lynda Brogden has [illegible] from assistant manager [illegible] the Cape Cod Branch; [illegible] Cunningham has been [illegible] assistant manager of the [illegible] Animal Center livestock

NEW NATIONAL HOTLINE FOR LOCATING PETS

PetSource in Knoxville, Tenne[illegible] has announced the establishment [illegible] new national hotline number to a[illegible] persons who want to locate har[illegible] find breeds in a particular area o[illegible] country, and provide an up-to-[illegible] sting of lost and found pets. [illegible] hotline also provides a computer[illegible] national directory of specific type[illegible] kennels, and other pet services. [illegible] number is 800-365-FIND.

LEAGUE PETS MAKE TOUCHING VISIT

Pat Hughes of Randolph cuddles one of the many homeless puppies and kittens who visited Boston Aid to the Blind at a special pet program held last Spring. Ann MacNeil, BAB program director, thanked the League staff and animals for taking the time to visit: "It was a wonderful opportunity for our clients to express affection and interact with animals. Many have not had the chance to hold, touch and cuddle a pet in a very long time."



A Special Gift From:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ *State:* _____ *Zip:* _____

PATIENT PUP FINDS A HOME

Denise Von Stetton, veterinary technician in the League's shelter, bids a fond farewell to "Bear," a playful nine-month-old puppy who was adopted in August after spending most of his short life at the Boston adoption center where he captured the hearts of the staff members who fed, walked and played with him daily. "Bear" was found shortly after Christmas on the porch of a three-family home in Roxbury, where the puppy had been left by its owners to freeze in sub-zero temperatures. After repeated warnings were ignored, the puppy was taken into custody by the League, but months went by before "Bear" was legally free for adoption. During that time, the puppy was nursed back to health and grew to a very amiable, friendly and playful pup. Because of its lack of formal training as a puppy, Bear and his new owners have been offered free obedience training classes, starting in September.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO MARBLEHEAD YOUNGSTERS

The League would like to express its deep gratitude to members of the third grade class at the Tower School in Marblehead for their "sweet" gesture on behalf of homeless animals. The youngsters organized a bake sale and donated the $110 proceeds to the League's Sheldon Branch in Salem.

RED ACRE OPEN HOUSE MARKS DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

The Red Acre Farm Hearing Dog Center is observing National Deaf Awareness Week with an Open House, Sunday, September 25, at the Center which is located at 109 Red Acre Road in Stow, Mass. The event will feature tours of the kennels, hearing dog demonstrations, and free hearing tests provided by the Boston Guild for the Hard of Hearing. Red Acre Farm selects abandoned dogs from animal shelters, including the League, and trains them to act as "ears" for members of the deaf community, providing the dogs free of charge to qualified applicants. For further information, call (508) 897-8343 (voice/TTY).

NEW BOOK AIDS PET TRAVELERS

As more and more animals accompany their owners on vacation trips, the travel industry is adjusting to accommodate the fourfooted traveler's needs. Managers at three major hotels in Boston—the Copley Plaza, the Marriott, and the Westin—say they accept pets as long as they are of reasonable size, quiet and well behaved.

Pet owners who would like a complete guide to the hotels, motels and inns in New England that accommodate pets may wish to consult a new book titled *Traveling With Man's Best Friend,* written by Dawn and Robert Habgood, with the aid of their two golden retrievers. The book presents a comprehensive listing, with full description and many illustrations, of city hotels, country inns, resorts and bed and breakfast spots that welcome pets, as well as suggested activities for guests and their fourfooted companions to enjoy during their stay in an area (Dawbert Press, $10.95).

Animal

Operation Identification

Cheryl was doing her h[illegible] in her bedroom when she heard her [illegible] yes. Mom?" Cheryl a[illegible] better walk 'Acorn now be[illegible] dark," directed her mo[illegible] Cheryl shouted.

Cheryl jumped off her b[illegible] to slip her s[illegible] Acorn and never m[illegible] walks she needed [illegible] all dogs [illegible] health [illegible] *respon*[illegible]

Cheryl [illegible] laces. [illegible] and ran out the door to the backyard calling for Acorn. "Acorn is not out here," called Cheryl's father from the far corner of the fenced-in yard. "I thought she was upstairs with you." "No, Dad, the last time I saw her she was here in the yard," answered Cheryl. "What are you doing over there?" asked Cheryl. "Oh, just repairing this hole in the fence," said her father. Cheryl and [illegible] and they [illegible]ling. Had Acorn [illegible] the fence before it [illegible]

[illegible]eck in the house for [illegible] said. "I will look around outside the fence." Cheryl was afraid to check the house and find out Acorn really was gone but she forced herself to run to the house, alert her mother, and search for Acorn. Acorn was not in the house and Cheryl's father did not see Acorn outside the fence. Cheryl and her parents had to admit that Acorn was lost. "She could not have gone very far," said Cheryl's father, "because we saw her only one hour ago. I will drive around the neighborhood and try to *locate* her." "I will go with you," her mother said. "Cheryl, you stay here in case Acorn comes back." Cheryl's mother and father got in their car and drove slowly down

the road calling for Acorn out the windows.

Cheryl felt very alone and wanted to cry but she knew that crying would not bring Acorn back. The week before, Cheryl remembered, the town Animal Control Officer had visited her school and recommended a *procedure* to follow in case a pet was lost. Cheryl found her school book bag and removed the *Operation Identification* pamphlet the Officer had handed out to the children. It read:

1. Have your pet properly identified and be sure the tags are on his collar at all times.
2. When your pet is missing, don't wait for him to return home—go out and try to find him!
3. When your pet is lost, check with neighbors, children, mailmen and delivery persons in the area to alert them about your lost pet.
4. Post "Help find our pet" posters in the area where you lost your pet, especially community and supermarket bulletin boards.
5. Contact and visit all the local animal shelters and humane societies in the area. Supply them with copies of "Help find this pet."

6. Place an advertisement in the area newspapers' "Lost and Found" columns.
7. Remember, "Don't give up—Your pet won't."

She was relieved to see that numbers 1 and 2 were already taken care of so she started on numbers 3 and 4. She went to her neighbors' houses and told them that Acorn was missing and asked them to please call if they saw any sign of her. Since it was evening and most businesses were closed, Cheryl decided she would have to wait until the next day to alert the mailman and milkman about Acorn's disappearance. Cheryl then ran home to see if her parents had returned, hopefully with Acorn. "I better start number 4 and make those Lost and Found posters right away," Cheryl said outloud to herself.

She gathered all the photographs of Acorn that she could find and pasted them on to bright colored construction paper. She printed "LOST DOG" on the top of the paper and on the bottom she listed a description of Acorn and a phone number to call if anyone found her. While she was making the posters, Cheryl wondered if Acorn was all right. Acorn had never been allowed outside the yard alone and Cheryl was sure that she must be afraid. Cheryl was missing Acorn very much and was feeling ready to cry when the doorbell rang. Cheryl jumped up and ran to the door, flung it open, and standing in the doorway was the same Animal Control Officer that had visited the school. Standing with the Officer were her parents and, best of all, Acorn! Cheryl knelt down and scooped Acorn into her arms and gave her a big welcome home hug.

The Animal Control Officer explained that he had found Acorn in town trying to cross a busy street. Luckily the Officer was able to stop the cars moving in both directions and lead Acorn to safety. The Officer and Cheryl's parents arrived at the house at the same time. Cheryl showed the Officer the posters she had been working on. The Officer was very pleased with how Cheryl and her parents had handled the emergency and told her that the most important thing they did was to put identification tags on Acorn before she was lost. Without the tags to *trace* Acorn to her owners, Cheryl might never have seen Acorn again.

From that day on, Cheryl and her parents checked the fence for holes around the yard regularly and continued to walk Acorn on a leash at all times when outside the yard. Cheryl and her parents were responsible pet owners and Acorn never got lost again.

VOCABULARY LIST

Responsibility – Having a duty to care for someone or something else

Procedure – A series of steps followed in a certain order

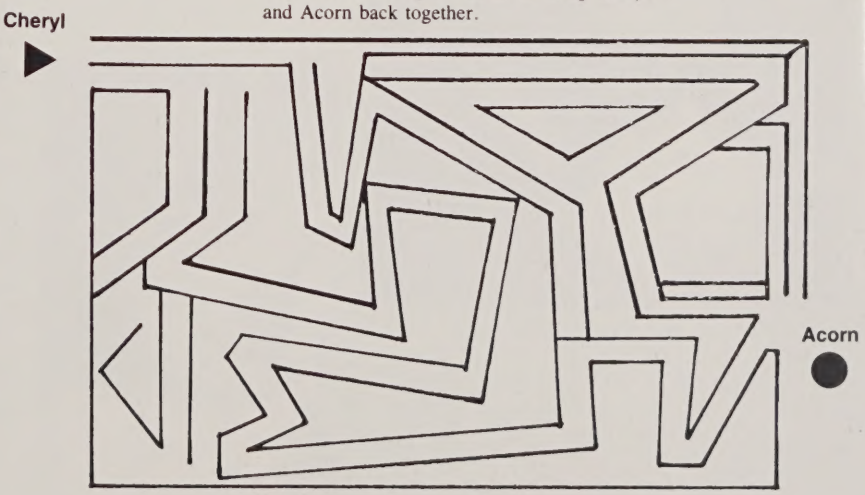
Locate – To find

Operation Identification – Procedures to follow when a pet is lost

Trace – To locate

Help Cheryl Locate Acorn

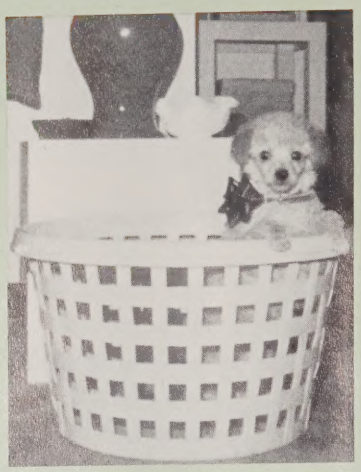
Draw a line through the maze to bring Cheryl and Acorn back together.



See solution on inside back cover

PETS IN THE PICTURE

1



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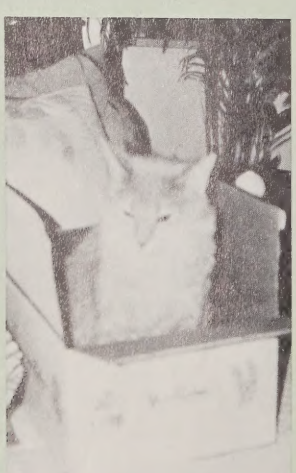

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1 "Ginger," adopted from the League when she was 1½, celebrated her third birthday this July, according to owner Bertha Rees of South Boston. "She learned about this spot from my Siamese cat who loves the heat from the middle of the kitchen range—definitely a 'no no' when cooking," Ms. Rees writes.

2 This basket of cheer is "Brandy" who lifts the spirits of owner Marilyn Loftus of Watertown. "I got him at Christmas from my children (I am a widow) and he has been such a joy!" Mrs. Loftus writes.

3 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Foster of West Mansfield also sent a donation in memory of "our beloved 'Muffin,' who gave us so much happiness, naturally along with some mischief. She'll be part of us forever," they write.

4 "Here's 'Heidi' giving her sweet and innocent look, but believe me she's far from guileless," writes Susan Tetrault of Peabody who adopted the golden retriever/husky from the League four years ago. "It was one of the best decisions I ever made. She's mischievous as an elf. We have a lot of fun together, and she just gets better with age!"

5 This lovable pair is "Maurice" and "Matthew" who left the League in 1975 at the age of six weeks to join the family of Catherine Cain of Winthrop. "I needn't tell you how much pleasure these guys have given. They have been twelve years of loving companionship, fun and adventure."

6 " 'Bambi' was found abandoned on the streets of Dorchester by my niece," writes Eileen McAuliffe of Natick. "Thanks to my niece and the veterinarian who took care of her, she's doing great now."

7 Audrey Willhite of Jamaica Plain sent a donation "in memory of my most beloved cat, Irwin," who passed away at the age of 16. "The loss hurt a lot, but the memory of the many years of his devotion and friendship will always stay in my mind."

8 "On March 19, I had no intention of adopting," writes Kim Moses of East Boston. "Then a small paw reached out to me from a cage. I am so glad that I went with my instincts! 'Gracey' is the sweetest cat—I could rave about her for hours!"

T-Shirts and Sweatshirts for Youngsters and Adults

T-Shirts–Green with white lettering

Children's Sizes:
Small (6–8) Medium (10–12) Large (14–16)
$7.50

Adult Sizes:
Small (34–36) Medium (38–40) Large (42–44)
X-Large (46–48)
$8.50

Sweatshirts–Blue with white lettering

Children's Sizes:
Small (6–8) Medium (10–12) Large (14–16)
$10.50

Adult Sizes:
Small (34–36) Medium (38–40) Large (42–44)
X-Large (46–48)
$11.50

Order Form:

T-Shirts: Children's size(s) _____ at **$7.50** each
Adult size(s) _____ at **$8.50** each

Sweatshirts: Children's size(s) _____ at **$10.50** each
Adult size(s) _____ at **$11.50** each

Costs include postage and packaging.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the total amount of _____, made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

Mail to:
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117

Moving?

Please allow two months for us to correct our mailing list.

Please let us know if you're planning to move so we can be sure that you receive OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS without interruption.

Old Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(please print or attach mailing label)

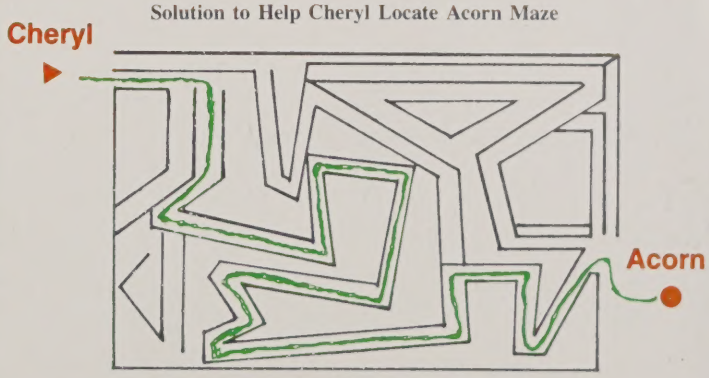
New Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Solution to Help Cheryl Locate Acorn Maze



COME TO THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON'S

To Benefit Homeless Animals

Thursday, October 20, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Corner Arlington & Tremont Sts. Boston

Gift Tables • Baked Goods • Shelter Tours
Demonstrations by Boston Police Horses & Dogs

Our Fourfooted Friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117